The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

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ELECTION MARKS AN EPOCH; TRADE UNION POLICY SUCCEEDS

The people, through Thomas Jefferson, smashed the Federalist party with its sedition law and anti-democratic instincts. Six decades later the people wrote slavery's sentence and smashed the Whig party because liberty can not compromise with traffic in human beings.

Eight decades later—November, 1922—the people's political expression marks the beginning of another era in the nation's life.

This election differs from all others. It is the first time the United States senate lost its characteristic of being the haven for privilege.

The people have caused other political upheavels. The policies of other administrations have been rebuked, but this is the first time privilege has been challenged on the floor of the United States senate.

In every decade, in every generation, the "old guard" was considered invulnerable. Before the civil war it was the bulwark of slavery. Following the civil war the agents for steel, for textiles, for lumber, for the packing industry, for coal, for the railroads, were known and shamelessly proclaimed.

Presidents could be defeated and congressmen retired to private life, but the senate system continued.

In late years agitation against these political agents made some headway, but they could yet stand on the senate floor and advocate handcuffing labor to its task, remove taxes from wealth and urge a ship subsidy for the favored few.

The recent election has changed this. The American house of lords no longer exists. The senate has lost its characteristic. Industrial oligarchs will not control that body when the new congress convenes.

Another feature of this election was its non-partisanship. Men who berate organized labor for its non-partisan attitude are jubilant over the people's victory, but fail to see that they are celebrating a victory made possible by non-partisanship.

They condemn labor's political method, but they used that method to record the third significant political upheaval in the nation's history.

Party labels were nothing to voters at this election. The power of party discipline was nil. Voters "picked off" the defenders of privilege and elected by large majorities honest men who were on the same ticket.

Voters refused to obey party mandates and broke the party spirit. Congressman Keller's party organization condemned him for daring to impeach Attorney General Daugherty. The people ignored the politicians and re-elected the Minnesota lawmaker. Then they scratched Senator Kellogg on the same ticket and elected Dr. Shipstead.

Voters everywhere adopted this non-partisan policy. At no other election was labor so victorious or its policy so completely sustained.

The election proves that if the recent intensive campaign against Daugherty's injunction will be continued, or the same agitation against child labor or other social wrongs, a public opinion can be created that will break the back of every opposition.

No force that reaction can assemble is powerful enough to withstand a continuous intelligent agitation.

Its public press, its distorting economists, its subsidized educators, and its other tinsel and sham are impotent before a determined citizenship.

The lessons of the recent election should encourage every believer in social justice to continue the fight for right.

"Jam Ship Subsidy Through" Is Cry of Frenzied Reaction

Washington, Nov. 18.—It is "now or never" with the ship subsidy bill, and every effort will be made to pass this license to loot before the present congress expires on March 4 next. According to law, the last session of the present congress will convene the first Monday in December. Time is precious, however, and the president has called an extra session, beginning November 20. This gives two weeks' extra time. If the subsidy bill fails to pass before March 4 it is doomed, as it can never pass the new congress.

This condition makes it necessary to pass the bill before March 4. It can be jammed through the house in short order, as the house rules permit of closing debate and bringing a measure to a vote quickly if the majority is so inclined. The number of "lame ducks" seeking federal appointment and the large majority in the house makes a gag rule possible. In the senate free discussion is the rule, except by a three-fourths vote. The opponents of the bill will not agree to stop debate. This means a bitter filibuster which may threaten passage of the important appropriation bills. In that event an extra session of the new congress would have to be called. The new congress is as popular with reaction as a smallpox sign, and no standpatter wants that congress in session one minute more than is absolutely necessary. This would indicate that reaction will throw the ship subsidy bill overboard if it finds that the filibuster endangers the appropriation bills.

Opponents of subsidy point to the recent election. They insist that the haste with which the bill is urged and the special session called for that purpose is proof that the proposal cannot stand investigation, and that the new congress, with its mandate from the people, would defeat the bill.

Subsidy advocates decline to discuss the details of their plan to loot. They just howl for a merchant marine and would create the impression that any one who opposes them is against an American merchant marine.

GREATEST COAL MINE EVILS BEYOND WORKERS' CONTROL

Washington, Nov. 18.—The flippant manner some employers treat industrial discord and their disregard for cause and effect is shown in a statement by bituminous coal owners to the president's fact finding coal commission.

The coal owners declare that the frequency of coal strikes constitute the gravest problem in their industry.

This statement follows a letter written by the miners to the commission, in which attention is called to certain fundamental defects in the industry. The miners also declared for the complete recognition of their right to organize and bargain collectively. It was the latter point that aroused the coal owners, who now charge that strikes are the dominant evil.

This charge by the coal owners is not sustained by the highest coal authority in this country—the United States geological survey, which stated, on February 4 last, that for the past 20 years strikes have caused but 10½ per cent of the time lost in mines.

"In the 20-year period, 1900-1919, the operators reported a total loss of 124,747,199 man-days through strikes, but the loss attributable to other causes was 1,053,576,000 man-days, or eight and a half times as great as the strike loss. To put it another way, in two decades American coal miners lost one and a sixth billion working days, of which 10.5 per cent was ascribable to strikes and 89.5 per cent to other causes, chief of which are no market, car shortage and mine disability."

It would be supposed that the coal owners would face these facts, and assist in checking such a waste of man-power. Instead, facts are ignored, and the commission is regaled with fairy tales about wicked coal miners.

JAPANESE BARRED FROM CITIZENSHIP

Washington, Nov. 18.—The United States supreme court has ruled that Japanese are ineligible to citizenship.

The court stated that "in all of the naturalization acts from 1790 to 1906 the privilege of naturalization was confined to white persons (with the addition in 1870 of those of African nativity and descent), although the exact wording of the various statutes was not always the same."

Declaring that it is the duty of the court "to give effect to the intent of congress," the opinion proceeded to determine the intent "by giving the words their natural significance."

The court intimated that it agreed with counsel for the Japanese when reference was made to "the culture and enlightenment of the Japanese people."

The court said there was no suggestion of individual unworthiness or racial inferiority in the decision. "We have no function in the matter other than to ascertain the will of congress and declare it," said the court.

LAW ON SEA HELD VALID.

Washington, Nov. 18.—The criminal jurisdiction of the United States extends to offenses against its laws committed by American citizens upon the high seas, the United States supreme court held in a case brought by the government against Raymond H. Bowman. The case is regarded by counsel as affecting the enforcement of important phases of many statutes.

Bowman was the chief engineer on the shipping board steamship Dio and was indicted with others in Brazil on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government in the purchase of fuel oil.

The supreme court upheld the government's contention that if the ruling of the lower court was not set aside federal criminal statutes could be violated with impunity by persons going outside the three-mile limit.

PEDDLED SAME OLD DOPE.

New York, Nov. 18.—"An impartial committee," appointed by the president for every railroad dispute, was favored by James A. Emery, attorney for the national association of manufacturers, before a meeting of business men in this city.

Mr. Emery's plea is the same theory of the railroad labor board, except that the new scheme is sugar coated. There is no mention of workers and managers discussing differences or no hope for a better understanding. As this condition makes organization necessary, and Mr. Emery's paymasters, favor individual bargaining, he trots out the same dope that was used when the railroad labor board was created.

COURT AIDS BOSSES.

Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 18.—The workers' charge that the federal arbitration court is now an open aid to the bosses is again supported. The court has ordered that the work week for timber workers and engineers in that industry be increased from 44 hours to 48 hours. Former Justice Higgins established this 44-hour week two years ago.

FORCED TO SEIZE COAL.

Scranton, Pa., Nov. 18.—Headed by village officials, citizens of Olyphant seized four car loads of coal to supply churches and schools that have been without coal for weeks. Olyphant is located five miles from this city and is built over coal mines.

VACCINATION LAWS LEGAL.

Washington, Nov. 18.—The United States supreme court has ruled that vaccination laws are legal.

TEXTILE STRIKE SWAYS RHODE ISLAND ELECTION

Providence, R. I., Nov. 18.—Striking textile workers carried their fight onto the political field, and the feudalism of textile barons was dealt two hard blows by the increased demand for the passage of a 48-hour week law and the abolition of the property qualification for voters. In this state a voter must own property and pay taxes before he can vote for any officer who supervises the expenditure of money. The mill barons have given all power to the senate, which has proven a barrier to progress. Other gains secured at the election include the direct election of judges, increasing the powers of the governor and prohibiting working by women and children at night. Women supported the attack on property qualifications.

12-HOUR DAY CHARGED.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Many government employes work a 12-hour day and a seven-day week, and are not even paid overtime was charged at the meeting of the executive council of the National Federation of Federal Employes, in session in this city.

It was stated that engineers in most federal buildings in this city work seven days a week. Lockmasters on the Fox river in Wisconsin often labor 16 hours a day.

These abuses, it was stated, prevail "in countless instances in the government service throughout the country." The long work day is especially prevalent in the customs service. Immigration and customs officials on the Canadian border are working the 12-hour day and seven-day week.

The executive council has arranged to take this matter up with the various departmental heads.

CO-OPERATIVES PROSPER.

Farmington, Ill., Nov. 18.—The co-operative society at this place reports that it did a total business of $39,984.60 for the three months ended September 30. Its resources are $57,233.75. This society is operated on the Rochdale system, which sells goods at the prevailing market price and then divides profits to its stockholders on the basis of the amount of money they spent at the store. Under this system a person owning one share of stock and spending $100 at the store will receive a greater proportion of profits than the person who owns 10 shares of stock and spends but $10 at the store.

INFLATION IS FEARED.

New York, Nov. 18.—Financiers are worried over present industrial conditions, which appear prosperous, but which are filled with possibilities of inflation and boosted prices.

It is stated that "the disparity still exists in the relationship of prices of farm products and manufactured products." This is the financial lingo for stating that low prices received by the farmer makes it impossible for him to buy farm machinery, clothing, shoes, etc.

PROFITS IN STEEL.

New York, Nov. 18.—Wall street predicts that steel trust profits for the last quarter of this year will range around $17,000,000. This will leave $12,000,000 for preferred dividends and common stock, with $4,000,000 to remain in the treasury as surplus.

FUR PICKETS JAILED.

New Brunswick, N. J., Nov. 18.—Three trade unionists have been sentenced to six, four and three months in jail for violating a court order not to picket the plant of the Balk fur company, which is attempting to enforce the anti-union shop.

CHEAP WAGE ADVOCATES WANT 'WORTHY' ALIENS

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 18.—The immigration law should be changed so the number of "worthy applicants for citizenship" could be increased, according to J. M. Larkin of the Bethlehem steel corporation, speaking before the national personnel convention in this city.

Later in his talk Mr. Larkin uncautiously revealed that he is less interested in "worthy applicants for citizenship" than in changing the immigration law, which "works a hardship on large employers," he said.

These sentiments are in line with the "labor shortage" propaganda. In this city the steel mills and other manufacturing plants are holding wages to the lowest level. The steel barons then cry "labor shortage." The same conditions prevail throughout the western part of this state, where men are refusing to work long hours for starvation wages.

Reaction's plan is to create a belief in the public mind that a labor shortage exists. This public opinion will be capitalized to secure free immigration and permit industrial corporations to have a squad of unemployed at every factory gate.

These employers are now affecting a patriotic interest in the class of immigrants that should be admitted. This is one of greed's favorite claims. It sounds good at banquet talks, and gives their cheap labor quest a patriotic angle.

WANT ORCHARD PARDONED.

Boise, Idaho, Nov. 18.—State officials and ex-officials head a petition to the state pardon board to free Harry Orchard, private detective, stool pigeon and self-confessed slayer of Governor Steunenberg in 1905.

These were the times of bull pens for Idaho unionists, who were demanding better working conditions in the mines.

Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone of the old Western Federation of Miners were actually kidnaped in Denver and carried into Idaho by officers of the law and there placed on trial for complicity in the killing of Steunenberg. The kidnaping aroused labor. The three men were acquitted. Orchard, a private detective, confessed that he killed the governor and was sentenced to life imprisonment. The trial revealed that Orchard has a long record as stool pigeon and spy. Now Idaho's "best citizens" want him pardoned.

SAYS FARMERS REVOLTED.

Chicago, Nov. 18.—The fury of farmers over the deflation policy of the federal reserve board proved a "revolt against landed aristocracy" in the recent election, according to Benjamin C. Marsh of Washington, managing director of the farmers' national council.

"In 1920 about 38 per cent of the farmers were tenants and by 1930 probably one-half will be tenants," said Mr. Marsh. He said the federal reserve board carried out its deflation policy at the behest of profiteers who made $20,000,000,000 net profit out of the war or a million dollars net profit for every three boys who lost their lives during the war.

MANY STOCK DIVIDENDS.

New York, Nov. 18.—The following indicates the size of some Wall street stock dividends during the past three months:

Standard oil of New Jersey, 400 per cent; Victor talking machine company, 600 per cent; Vacuum oil, 300 per cent; Ohio oil company, 300 per cent; Bank of Manhattan (New York), 100 per cent; Gulf oil corporation, 200 per cent; Great Northern paper company, 200 per cent; Union mills, Inc., Boston, 100 per cent; Standard oil of Kansas, 300 per cent; Hercules powder company, 100 per cent; Standard oil of New York, 200 per cent.

TELEPHONE PROFITS JUMP.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Stockholders in larger telephone companies need not worry about "a living wage," according to reports to the interstate commerce commission. It is stated that profits for last August amounted to $18,177,000, compared with $8,456,000 for the same month last year.

WON'T ACCEPT AWARD.

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 18.—The Canadian Pacific railroad company refuses to accept a wage award by the board of conciliation in its dispute with organized railroad clerks. The board was appointed under the Lemieux act. The railroad has informed the deputy minister of labor that the award is too high.

ALLENISM IS ENDED LABOR VINDICATED

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 18.—The election in this state has smashed Allenism. The new state executive, Jonathan M. David, has repeatedly declared against the Kansas "can't-strike" law. Since the election he said:

"The industrial court law has been unfair and unjust and there is no need or a place for it in Kansas. There have been only a few cases before it and none of them have been settled satisfactorily."

Mr. David's opponent was supported by Allen.

Because the state senate is a holdover the legislature is politically opposed to the governor, who can make the law impotent despite the legislature. Many of the lawmakers are not enthusiastic over the law since the election.

The passing of Allen and his creed is another sky rocket that for the moment attracted attention. Allen traveled through the country urging his "can't-strike" law, which was copied from the English code of the middle ages. He was advertised like a three-ring circus by secret and open defenders of reaction in the hope that his unAmerican doctrine would spread. Two years ago he was seriously urged as a vice presidential candidate, because, the public was told, he "has solved the labor problem."

Editors of influential newspapers sang the praises of Allenism, and the tune was carried on by educators and others who are supposed to know history and the constitution of their country.

Single handed organized labor fought Allenism. Trade unionists repeatedly predicted Allen's finish when urging workers not to be swept off their feet by this latest frenzy and fad.

WANT OIL WORKERS DIVIDED.

Bakersfield, Cal., Nov. 18.—The California Oil World, representing employers, suggests to oil workers that they split their union, which now comprises skilled and unskilled workers.

"What has the skilled driller in common with the roustabout?" scornfully asks this editor, who insists that skilled workmen should "not be called from the job by the vote of the unskilled and the incompetent."

The California Oil Worker replies:

"It is, of course, the function of the California Oil World to suggest ideas that would weaken the Oil Workers' union, and oil workers, being wide awake enough to realize that fact, will continue to exercise their right to conduct their own organization according to their own ideas—which is naturally the safest way."

EMPLOYERS WANT HELP.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 18.—Another sob appeal for finanancial aid has been issued by the Tennessee manufacturers' association. In their plea to defeat social laws the manufacturers say:

"The manufacturers of Tennessee are paying $60,000 annually and have been since January 1, 1919, simply because we needed five more votes in the 1919 session of the legislature to defeat the factory inspection bill. We are positive that there are enough manufacturers not in the association to have influenced five representatives to vote against the law levying a fee for factory inspection."

ONE WOMAN ELECTED.

Chicago, Nov. 18.—Mrs. Winifred Mason Huck of this city was the one successful woman candidate for national lawmaking honors. She was chosen to fill the unexpired term of her father, the late Congressman Mason. Her term of office will expire March 4 next, after which time there will be no woman in congress, as Miss Robertson of Oklahoma was defeated.

Mrs. Huck has declared for no war except by a referendum vote of the people.

WOMAN IS SUPREME JUDGE.

Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 18.—One of the features of the Ohio election was the success of Florence E. Allen, non-partisan candidate for the state supreme court. She is the first woman elected to that position.

DEFEAT CENSORSHIP.

Boston, Nov. 18.—By a three-to-one referendum vote at the recent election the people rejected a motion picture censorship act that was passed by the last legislature.

FEUDAL LUMBER BARONS EXPOSED BY ORGANIZED TIMBER WORKERS

Seattle, Nov. 18.—Strenuous publicity efforts are being made by R. A. Long, lumber king and head of the Long-Bell lumber company, to counteract the propaganda of the Timber Workers' union, which is exposing his anti-union tactics, his paternalism and his company "union."

The timber workers point to Weed, Cal., as a sample of Mr. Long's interest in the workers. To get rid of the union the manager of the Weed mills organized a "plant council," which, he explained, was done to "extend the hand of fellowship." That was in March, last year. A wage cut of $1 a day was immediately enforced. Ten days later another cut of 40 cents a day was made.

"This 'plant council,' said Harry W. Call, secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Timber Workers, "was composed of the department superintendents and one employe from each department, appointed by his superintendent, to serve for a period of not less than 90 days. All employes must submit their grievances in writing to this delegate, who, in turn, presents them to the monthly meeting of the council, the meeting being composed of the superintendents of the various departments.

"To the company was reserved the last word. If the company was not in the mood to concede changes, it would veto the proceedings and there was no court of appeal.

"For the company the 'plant council' worked. For the workers it has meant a succession of raids on their pay checks and working conditions which were already too bad for human endurance. The trouble at Weed has never been righted. Long hours of labor prevail. Wages are low. There is no liberty.

"When a worker accepts employment at Weed he is given a 'number' or brass check and is charged $1. If he loses the check the company appropriates the dollar. Since the 'plant council' was formed the state has been compelled to enforce the minimum wage law for women, who were paid 67 cents a day less than the law provides.

"Weed is a typical Long-Bell company town. The company owns the mills, logging camps, stores, bank, hotels, restaurants and hospital. The United States post office and recreation hall are on company land.

"In a company town the company's domination does not stop on the job. In most cases the mayor is a stockholder and high official of the company. He appoints the chief of police who is invariably a company henchman, who in turn selects the deputies, or thugs, as they are most always found to be, and who enforce 'law and order.' Then comes the school board, always selected with a view of protecting the company's interests. The church comes in for its share of company domination, and the state legislature is another favorite roosting place for emissaries of the company. This industrial and political combination is guaranteed to arrest normal activities of luckless inhabitants of the company town.

"The coin of the realm in a company town is the coupon book, or 'tin money,' bearing the name of the company. It is not negotiable outside the 'kingdom.' Use of 'tin money' is so widespread in some of the southern lumber sections that United States money is not recognized.

"Real labor organizations are out of style in a company town. The only organization assured a welcome is the brand that is hopeless, useless, spineless and reactionary. It must be ready made, hand-picked and bear the company's trade mark."

Anti-Unionists Squirm Under Injunction Attack

New York, Nov. 18.—The current issue of Law and Labor attacks John P. Frey's expose of the labor injunction evil. Law and Labor is published by the league for industrial rights, formerly known as the anti-boycott association.

The anti-unionists agree that injunctions are vague "and that the average striker does not know what they mean." For a remedy, they say the "court and counsel must co-operate to eliminate this," and that "the courts will finally evolve a law of employer and employe that will stand the test of public scrutiny and criticism."

The belief that courts should make law reveals the wide chasm between anti-unionists and organized labor.

Law by the judiciary is the very essence of labor's objection to the injunction in industrial disputes.

What the anti-unionists intended to be a criticism of Frey's book is in reality an indorsement of its fundamental principle.

The alleged criticism again proves that the injunction process can not withstand publicity and searching inquiry.

THEY CRY LABOR SHORTAGE.

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 18.—Reaction is shrieking "labor shortage" and the need for free immigration, while authorities in this state announce that labor employment has increased but 3 per cent from September to October. This is a gain of but 30 per 1,000 workers. The department of labor says:

"Every group of manufacturing industries in New York state added to the number of its employes between September and October, except the food products industries, where seasonal reductions were to be expected.

"About 3 per cent more workers were employed in all the manufacturing industries combined."

OIL MELON ASSURED.

New York, Nov. 18.—Stockholders of the Standard oil company of New Jersey have ratified the increase in common stock, and a 400 per cent stock dividend. The common stock will be increased from $110,000,000 to $625,000,000.

Future profits that would amount to 30 or 40 per cent on the old capitalization will not look so formidable or arouse such public resentment when they are spread over the new capitalization.

STRIKE GUARD ABSCONDS.

Riverbank, Cal., Nov. 18.—A strike guard employed by the Santa Fe railroad here has departed with $2,000. Strikebreakers are housed in a stockade, and the guard took the strikebreakers' checks to local banks. If the company makes good the loss will be charged to maintenance costs, which means that the public will pay.

RESIST ANTI-UNIONISM.

Streator, Ill., Nov. 18.—Organized labor's fight against the anti-union shop in this city is nearly entering its third year. More than 1,500 workers have been on strike for nearly 24 months, and are as determined as ever to maintain their right to join a trade union.

WOULD CURB JUDGES.

New York, Nov. 18.—The American bar association's committee to prepare a code—a set of working rules—for the judiciary includes Chief Justice Taft of the United States supreme court.

It is stated that lawyers and judges believe certain arbitrary acts of judges are not within the law and have become so common as to be a menace to the proper administration of justice. This, the lawyers say, threatens to develop in the public lack of respect for the court's decisions.

Instances are cited where judges are clearly outside the legal function of a judge. There are numerous incidents of this kind which are not only extra-judicial and unauthorized by law, but dangerous because the judge, who is held to be at all times bound by the law and to interpret it, puts himself above the law and goes outside of it to invent a punishment.

The lawyers' complaint sounds like a trade union resolution.

WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

New York, Nov. 18.—Does Wall street intimate that public officials are partial to special privilege?

One correspondent throws out that hint. Discussing the effects of the election, he says the idea seems to prevail in business circles that the election is a protest against "the tendency to favor special rather than general trade interests."

As an indication of how quickly Wall street can swallow a bitter dose, the correspondent says that the reduced majority of the dominant party in congress will check "reactionary tendencies in legislation and lead to a more liberal and efficacious handling of business problems."

OPPOSE EQUALITY PLAN.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Representatives of a dozen women's organizations have declared against the "equality" amendment to the federal constitution proposed by the national woman's party. The opponents declare the plan is vague and that it would annul all legislation beneficial to working women. The American Federation of Labor also opposes the amendment, which is favored by those who are, in the main, economically independent, and who talk in abstract terms on the need for placing both sexes on an equal plane.

ARBITRATE TYPOS' PAY.

New York, Nov. 18.—Judge Talley of the general sessions court will arbitrate a wage dispute between the Typographical union and the union shop division of the employing printers' association. Printers employed in commercial shops are involved. The union asks for wage increases and the employers insist on reductions.

TAX DODGERS FLEECE U. S.

Washington, Nov. 18.—A treasury announcement states that the government has been defrauded of $186,000,000 in taxes. The principal offenders are munitions manufacturers and makers of other necessary war supplies. A rigid prosecution will be started, says the statement.

SAVE RAILWAY ACT, CRY BUSINESS MEN

New York, Nov. 18.—Election results alarm railroad financiers, who fear that an assault will be made on the Cummins-Esch act. They especially fear an attempt to repeal the section that takes from the various states the right to regulate railroads wholly within that state. The railroads would rather do business with a central head not directly responsible to the people, than with officials of the various states.

The alarm of the railroads is increased because of the passing of so many of their friends from the senate, and the necessity for reorganizing the important senate interstate commerce committee. When the next regular session of congress convenes, the commerce committee roll will not include such names as Townsend of Michigan, Poindexter of Washington, Kellogg of Minnesota, Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, Myers of Montana and Pomerene of Ohio.

TO PROBE LABOR ISSUE.

Washington, Nov. 18.—With the approval of the president, Secretary of Labor Davis has appointed the following commission to probe Hawaiian labor conditions:

John Donlin, president of the building trades department, A. F. of L.; Fred Keightly, secretary of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers; L. E. Sheppard, president of the Order of Railway Conductors; Otto R. Hartwig, president Oregon state federation of labor, and Hywell Davies, commissioner of conciliation, department of labor.

Sugar planters in the Hawaiian islands are urging the admission of Chinese under the plea of a labor shortage. Recently the Hawaiian legislature asked the federal administration to appoint a commission to investigate this question.

Paul Scharrenberg, secretary of the California state federation of labor, recently visited the Hawaiian islands and investigated the labor question as a representative of the A. F. of L. His report was printed in the American Federationist.

WANT CONTENTED FARMERS.

New York, Nov. 18.—At a conference of bankers and others in this city President Cromwell of the New York stock exchange expressed alarm over the discontent of farmers. Mr. Cromwell suggested that investment bankers "bend their efforts toward cultivating the confidence of the farmers." He said this sort of business might not be profitable at first, "but bankers are in honor bound to do something for the rural people."

The speaker said there exists "a strong suspicion" on the part of the farmers that they have been handed the hot end of the poker. This suspicion, it was declared, was founded "almost" entirely upon misunderstanding.

FAULTY SHIP MANAGEMENT.

New York, Nov. 18.—If American ship owners were efficient they could compete with foreign rivals, according to Captain Daniel A. J. Sullivan.

While the national administration and ship owners are demanding a subsidy to aid American vessels, Captain Sullivan declared at a meeting of naval architects and marine engineers, that more efficiency by the ship owners would place them on a par with foreign vessels in operating costs. He said the principal items—fuel, cargo handling and insurance—could be reduced greatly.

BUT WHO GETS KILLED?

Philadelphia, Nov. 18.—The Philadelphia Public Ledger draws this lesson from the latest mine disaster, which caused the death of 76 workers in this state:

"In the heat of controversy as to wages and conditions of toil we are prone to forget the human element. Now and then there comes a terrible reminder and the solemn lesson of industrial interdependence should not go unheeded by employer and employed."

WORK LAW IS RIGID.

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 18.—Deputy Attorney General Collins rules that it is a violation of the women's employment law for a woman employed in a mill to work the legal number of hours in a day and then work an additional shorter period in another mill the same day.

M'NULTY ELECTED.

Newark, N. J., Nov. 18.—Frank McNulty, former president of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, was elected to congress from this city.

MANY OLD GUARDSMEN PASS TO PRIVATE LIFE

Washington, Nov. 18.—Among the outstanding victories of labor at the last election was the defeat of former United States Senator Beveridge of Indiana, who was a candidate for the senate. During his primary campaign he posed as a progressive and liberal. When nominated he pleaded the cause of reaction. He attacked organized workers, and declared in favor of pending reactionary legislation. His attacks on labor were answered with interest. This apostate will continue a private citizen, and his presidential nomination two years hence is no longer a possibility.

Senator Sutherland of West Virginia was also defeated. He is responsible for the appointment of George McClintic, a corporation lawyer, to the federal judiciary. The new judge made judicial history by enjoining miners from living in their tent colony, which they maintained in Mingo on private land, leased by them.

Senator Poindexter of Washington, advocate of handcuffing labor to its task, is in the list of those who will stay at home after March 4 next. Senator Myers of Montana, another handcuffer, "sensed" the coming storm and declined to be a candidate, after serving 12 years.

Senator Kellogg of Minnesota, advocate of "protection to aliens," was defeated. He introduced a bill which would permit federal authorities to invade a state and take charge of a strike when it involved even one single alien.

Governor Allen of Kansas and his "can't-strike" law pass out of the public eye with the defeat of his candidate for governor and the election of a governor who is pledged to repeal this law.

George Hunt was elected governor of Arizona. He held that office in 1915 when miners suspended work in the Metcalf-Morenci copper district. Governor Hunt notified the copper barons at that time that they could not import strikebreakers or gun men into the state. The miners secured a settlement.

Governor Sweet, the new state executive of Colorado, is committed against cossack rule in strikes.

OPPOSE JURY TRIAL.

Chicago, Nov. 18.—Railroad shop men demand that they be accorded a jury trial when opposing a continuance of the Daugherty injunction. The department of justice denies that the shop men are entitled to a jury trial on the ground that "the issues involved are questions of law."

The shop men are resisting the department's attempt to have the injunction made permanent. The shop men want the injunction dissolved, while the department insists that conspiracy, civil war and revolution are abroad in the land, and that the injunction is necessary to save the country from collapse. [illegible] the points that the department of justice refuses to submit to a jury.

SMOKE OUT PUSSY FOOTS.

Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 18.—Organized oil workers are attempting to smoke out whisperers and pussy foots who say officers of the union influenced last year's strike, which failed to check a wage cut.

The executive council of the International Association of Oil Workers announce they will give $500 for the first conclusive evidence that "money or its equivalent" was paid to any employe or official of the union to influence the action of the workers in this strike.

Now is the time, these trade unionists say, to expose traitors among the oil workers' executives and be well paid for doing so.

DEATH STALKS IN MINES.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Accidents at coal mines in September killed 153 men, according to reports from state mine inspectors to the United States bureau of mines. The average was 3 1-3 deaths for every million tons of coal mined. During the month 3,000,000 more tons of coal were mined than in September last year. The high production was 46,196,000 tons.

MENTAL TESTS ARE "BUNK."

Chicago, Nov. 18.—"Almost all intelligence tests are 'bunk,'" declares Prof. Kingsbury of the psychology department, University of Chicago.

"Psychology and the intelligence test, especially," he said, "have suffered from exploiters and faddists. Unfortunately no general test has been devised to measure the ability of an adult. We can only make vague classifications."